

#### NTSB National Transportation Safety Board



# General Aviation and the NTSB Most Wanted List

NW Aviation Conference and Trade Show – Puyallup, WA February 25, 2017 Earl F. Weener, Ph.D. Member, NTSB

#### N6529R - B36TC Bonanza





#### **NTSB Mission**



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent Federal agency created by the U.S. Congress to investigate every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant accidents in the other modes of transportation, namely – marine, highway, railroad and pipeline.



#### What We Do

Investigate the accident.



Determine the probable cause of the accident.



Propose corrective action to reduce the likelihood of a recurrence of the accident - through formal "recommendations".





#### The Investigative Process – Major Investigations

- Decision to launch a "Go-Team"
- Arrival On-Scene
- Organizational Meeting
- Briefings and on-scene activities (i.e. fact gathering)
- Post on-scene fact gathering
- Analysis
- Report preparation recommendation development
- Board Approval
- Advocacy



#### NTSB's Multi-Modal Mandate

- Maintain congressionally mandated independence
- Conduct objective accident investigations and safety studies
- Perform fair & objective airman/mariner certification appeals

 Advocate safety – NTSB Most Wanted List, recommendations



#### **NTSB 2017 Most Wanted List**



- · Eliminate Distractions
- End Alcohol and Other Drug Impairment in Transportation
- Ensure the Safe Shipment of Hazardous Materials
- · Expand Recorder Use to Enhance Safety
- Improve Rail Transit Safety Oversight
- Increase Implementation of Collision Avoidance Technologies
- Prevent Loss of Control in Flight in General Aviation
- Reduce Fatigue-Related Accidents
- Require Medical Fitness
- Strengthen Occupant Protection



### **Eliminate Distractions**







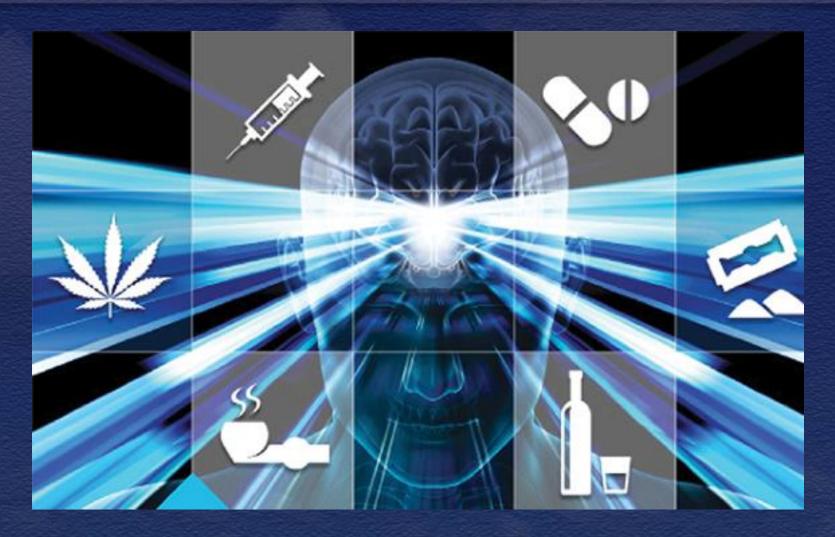
#### **2017 MWL – Eliminate Distractions**

A factor in all modes of transportation:

- Motor vehicle emphasis
  - Electronic devices within the vehicle
- Aviation emphasis
  - Sterile Cockpit
  - Appropriate use of PEDs
  - Manage distractions



#### **End Alcohol and Other Drug Impairment**





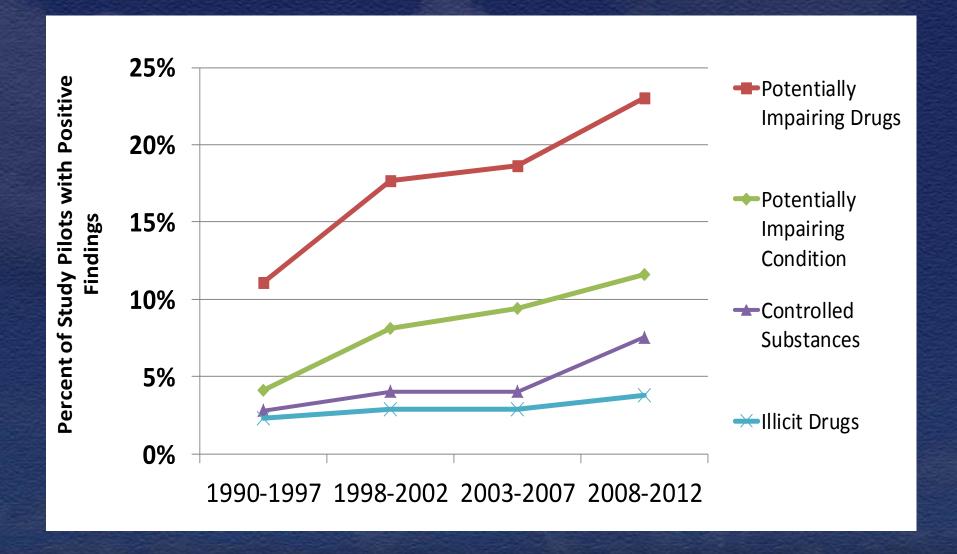
# 2017 MWL - End Alcohol and Other Drug Impairment

#### A factor in all modes:

- Fatally injured pilots potentially impairing drugs
  - -11% average 1990 1997
  - -23% average 2008 2012



#### **Toxicology Findings by Category, 1990-2012**





St. Lucie, FL

Diphenhydramine + Doxylamine

April 14, 2013



### **Most Common Drugs**

Benadryl Benadryl ALLERGY

Diphenhydramine HCI | Antihistamine

- Sedating antihistamines
  - Most common category
- Diphenhydramine
  - Most common individual drug
  - Most common potentially impairing drug
  - Use INCREASING















### 2017 MWL – Require Medical Fitness







Red Oak, IA/April 17, 2011





### 2017 MWL – Require Medical Fitness

#### A factor in all modes:

- Airman Medical fitness at exam point
  - Pilots must self-assess fitness
- Undiagnosed or unreported medical conditions pose threats
  - Obstructive Sleep Apnea
  - Diabetes
  - High Blood Pressure



# Reduce Fatigue - Related Accidents







Birmingham, AL/ August 14, 2013



Cranbury, NJ/ June 7, 2014

Doswell, VA/ May 31, 2011

Port Arthur, TX/ January 23, 2010





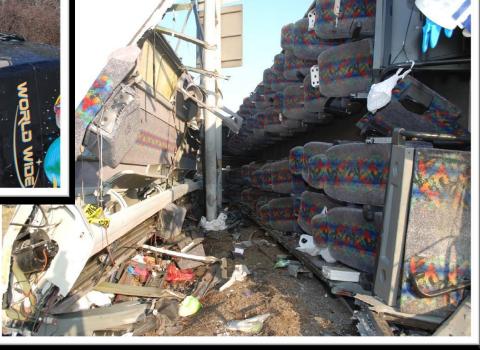




# Bronx Bus Crash, March 12, 2011



15 KILLED 17 INJURED





# 2017 MWL - Reduce Fatigue - Related Accidents

#### A factor in all modes:

- 182 Major investigations (2001 2012)
  - 20% involved fatigue
- Need
  - Research, education, training
  - Technology development
  - Hours of service, on/off duty policies
  - Fatique risk management systems
  - Medical treatment of sleep disorders



### **Strengthen Occupant Protection**







San Francisco, CA / July 6, 2013



T S B B B

24 Anaheim, CA / April 24, 2014

Philadelphia, PA/ May 12, 2015

# 2017 MWL – Strengthen Occupant Protection

#### A factor in all modes:

- Numerous investigations showed potential for reduced injuries & fatalities
- Need
  - Enhance survival space & ease of evacuation
  - Increased use of existing restraint systems
  - Shoulder harnesses for GA aircraft



# 2017 MWL - Expand Recorder Use to Enhance Safety







FedEx

FedEx Freight trucktractor double trailers and Silverado motorcoach / Orland, CA / Apr. 10, 2014



Commercial Vehicle Onboard Video Systems -2015



#### 2017 MWL - Expand use of Recorders

#### A factor in all modes:

- Critical in accident investigation
  - Install crash resistant image recorders in smaller turbine powered aircraft
  - Install flight recorders in transport category and HEMS aircraft
  - Install inward & outward video cameras in trucks, busses, & trains
  - Use PED memory when available



### **Prevent Loss of Control in Flight**





# **Loss of Control**



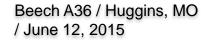


# **Loss of Control**











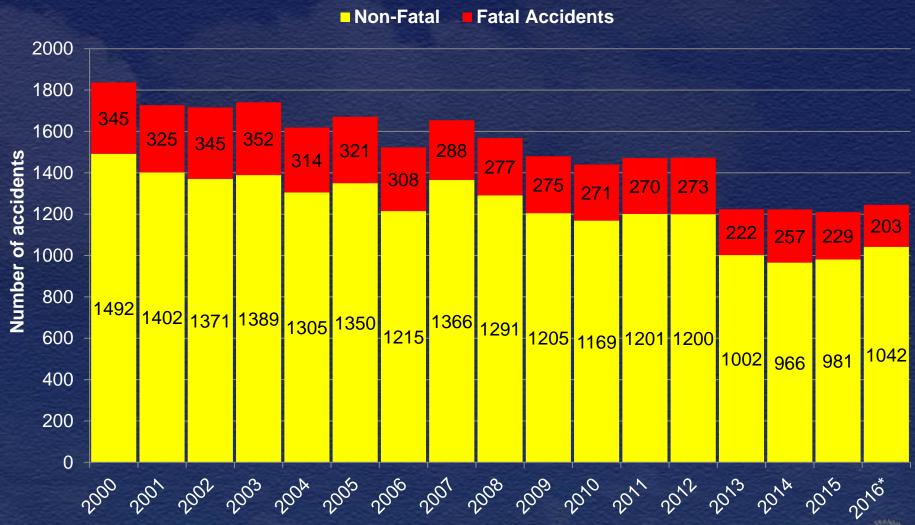
# 2017 MWL – Prevent Loss of Control in Flight in General Aviation

 More than 40% fatal GA accidents were LOC during 2004 – 2014

- Most deadly flight phases
  - Approach to landing
  - Maneuvering
  - Climb



#### **All GA Accidents**



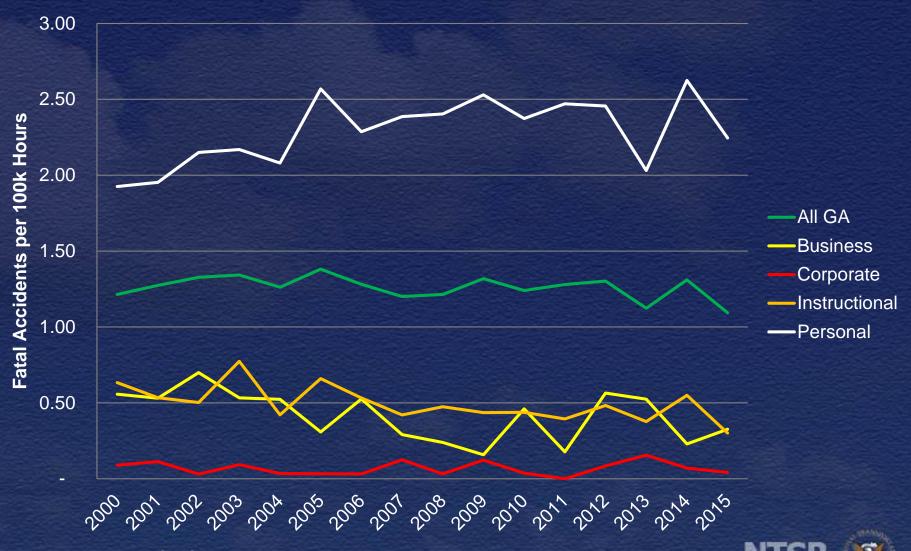
#### **GA Accident Rates**

35



\*The 2011 GA Survey is currently not available. FAA is actively engaged in re-calibration efforts and expect to have validated 2011 data published at a later date.

#### Fatal Accident Rates per 100k Flight Hours



36 \*The 2011 GA Survey is currently not available. FAA is actively engaged in re-calibration efforts and expect to have validated 2011 data published at a later date.

# Business Flying, 2008-2016

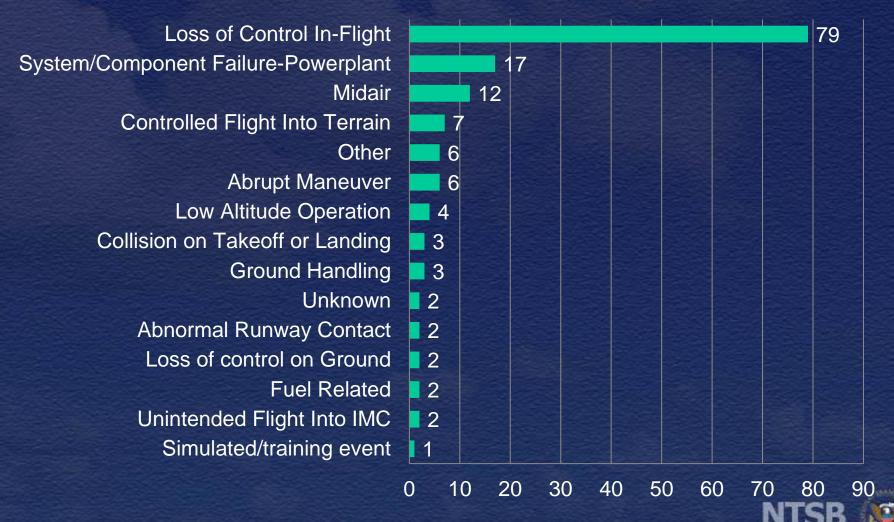
#### **Number of Fatal Accidents**





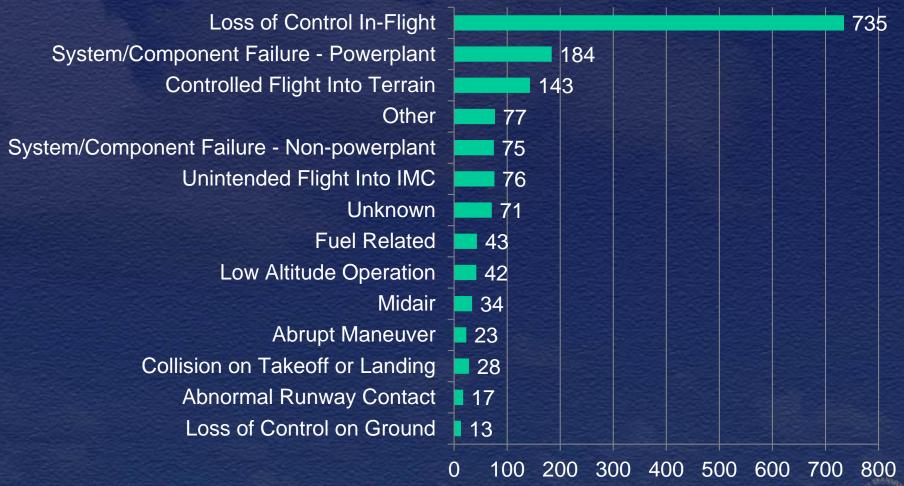
# **Instructional Flying, 2008-2016**

#### **Number of Fatal Accidents**

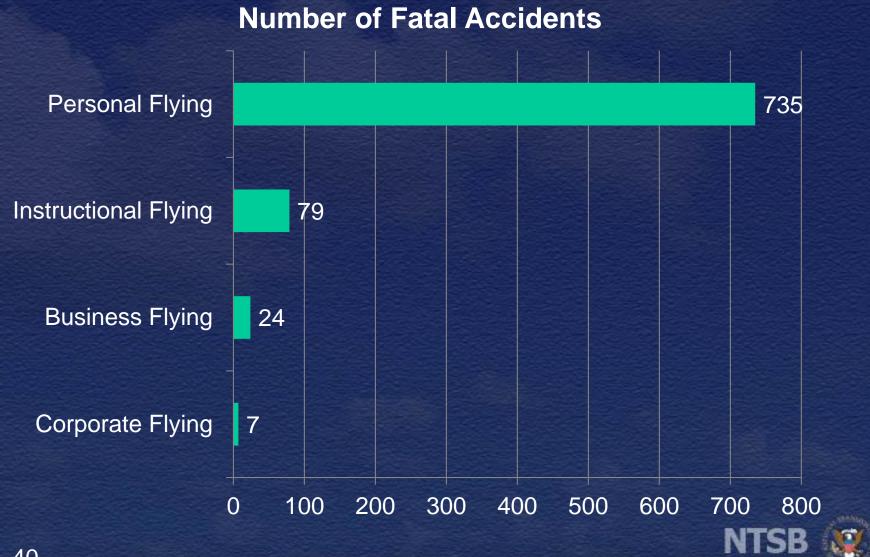


### Personal Flying, 2008-2016

#### **Number of Fatal Accidents**



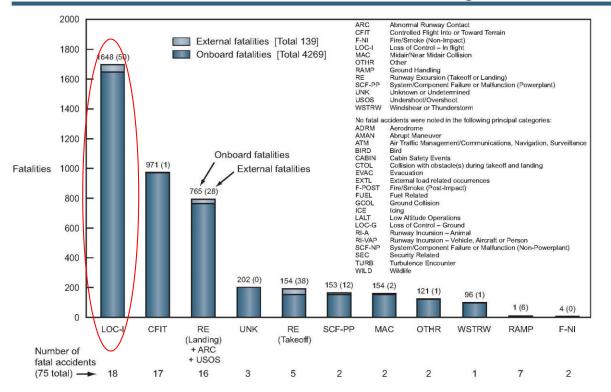
### Loss of Control In-Flight, 2008-2016



### **Boeing Annual Statistical Summery**

### Fatalities by CAST/ICAO Common Taxonomy Team (CICTT) Aviation Occurrence Categories

Fatal Accidents - Worldwide Commercial Jet Fleet - 2003 Through 2012



Note: Principal categories as assigned by CAST.

For a complete description of CICTT Aviation Occurrence Categories, go to: http://www.intlaviationstandards.org/





#### GAJSC — Who We Are...

### **Steering Committee**

Co-chairs - Mike O'Donnell (FAA/AVP)

Sean Elliott (EAA)

Government - FAA (AFS, AIR, ATO, AAM & ARP)

- NASA (Research),

NTSB (Observer)

Industry

- GAMA, EAA, NBAA, NATA, SAFE, LAMA & Insurance

- Strategic guidance
- Management/Approval of Safety Plan
- Provide direction
- Membership Outreach
- Provides linkage to ASIAS

### Safety Analysis Team

**Co-chairs: Corey Stephens (FAA)** 

Jens Hennig (GAMA)

Members: FAA, AOPA, EAA, GAMA, UAA, MFGs,

FAAST, NAFI, Insurance, Academia, SAFE

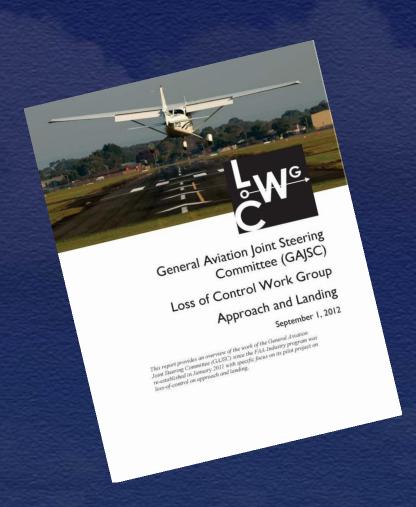
- Identify future areas of study/risk
- Charter safety studies
- Provide guidance and direction
- Draw data from various areas
- Develop a prioritized Safety Plan
- Develop metrics to measure effectiveness of safety solutions

### **Working Groups**

(To include SMEs from various general aviation segments, depending on study)

- Data analyses
- Safety enhancement
- Mitigation development

# **Loss-Of-Control Working Group**



#### Safety Enhancements Identified

- AOA New, Current, Retrofit
- Aeronautical Decision Making
- Stabilized Approach
- Single Pilot CRM
- Medication effects
- Weather Technologies
- Etc...

28 Safety Enhancementsplus8 more with second study



# **Lower Cost AOA Displays**

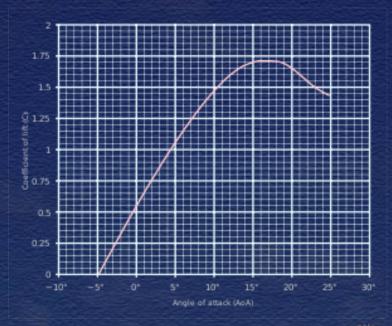
- Stall occurs at a specific Angle-of-Attack
  - But not necessarily at the same airspeed





First of AOA indicators built to ASTM stds and installed as a minor mod

FAA policy changed on Non-Required Safety Equipment





# Safety Management System

- Safety Policy
- Safety Risk Management
- Safety Assurance
- Safety Promotion



# **Changes to Safety Culture**

#### **Reactive & forensic**

- Whack-a-mole management
- Crisis safety management
- Silos of knowledge
- Data is collected

#### Risk-based & predictive











# **Changes to Safety Culture**

#### **Reactive & forensic**

#### Risk-based & predictive

- "Off with their heads"
- Safety organization responsible for safety
- Regulator is dictatorial and despised
- Safety expected by regulations

- Just culture
- Everyone responsible for safety
- Regulator is collaborative and respected
- Safety enhanced via voluntary initiatives



### Douglas Adams

"Human beings, who are almost unique in having ability to learn from the experience of others, are also remarkable for their apparent disinclination to do so."

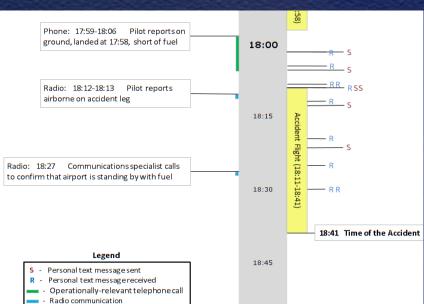




NTSB

### Mosby, MO August 26, 2011





#### **Probable Cause:**

"...the pilot's failure to confirm that the helicopter had adequate fuel on board to complete the mission before making the first departure, his improper decision to continue the mission and make a second departure after he became aware of a critically low fuel level...

Contributing to the accident... the pilot's distracted attention due to personal texting during safety-critical ground and flight operations..."



# Collision of Tugboat/Barge with Duck boat Philadelphia, PA July 7, 2010

